

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the figures as shown in the enclosed replacement sheets. The attached sheets of drawings include amendments to the drawings as requested by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that the enclosed replacement sheets are formal.

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-10 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 8-10 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

Specification Amendments

The title and paragraphs [0024], [0037], [0039], and [0041] have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Further, paragraphs [0043] and [0044] have been amended to correct typographical errors, namely, "protocol" and "master/salve" have been amended to "protocols" and "master/slave," respectively. No new matter has been added by any of the aforementioned amendments.

Drawing Amendments

Figures 1 and 4 were objected to as failing to coincide with the specification. The Applicant has amended Figures 1 and 4 to address this issue. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1-3 and 6-10 have been amended to clarify the invention and correct minor informalities. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in paragraphs [0024] and [0025] of the application. No new matter has been added by any of the aforementioned amendments.

Objection(s) to the Specification

Various paragraphs were objected to in the Specification for including unclear, inexact or verbose terms. All paragraphs were amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions except for paragraph [0012]. With respect to paragraph [0012], the Examiner asserts that the Applicant meant to write "[i]n particular, the invention allows one to mass-produce auxiliary devices arranged to appear to effect[sic] the same standard set of functionalities." However, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the original paragraph is correct (*i.e.*, the phrase "to appear" does not need to be added). Specifically, embodiments of the present invention allow mass-produced auxiliary devices, each of which includes the same of functionalities (*e.g.*, services). However, when each auxiliary device is connected to a main device, the auxiliary device will hide the functionalities that the main device does not require. Said another way, the auxiliary device may have a plurality of services loaded on it, but it will only show a subset of those services to whichever host it is connected too. Therefore, the auxiliary device will affect certain services according to what is required by the main device, but in another main device, the *same* auxiliary device may affect *different* services. Accordingly, regardless of the configuration of the main device, each auxiliary device may *always include and be able to affect* the same number of services. In this way, mass-

produced devices may be used with a plurality of different hosts, where each device is configured identically. In view of the above, withdrawal of the aforementioned objection with respect to paragraph [0012] is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 6-10 have been rejected for failing to comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 1. For the reasons set forth below, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 8, and 9 have been amended to clarify that the auxiliary device performs a first enumeration of its functionalities and a second enumeration of its functionalities to the main device. Further, the aforementioned claims have been clarified to reflect that during the second enumeration the auxiliary device hides from the main device at least those of its functionalities for which the main device is not arranged to handle. In view of the above amendments, the Applicant respectfully asserts that both the enumeration and the re-enumeration (*i.e.*, the first enumeration and the second enumeration, respectively) are now recited in the claims. Accordingly, claims 1, 8, and 9, now satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 1. Claims 2, 4, 6, and 10, depend, directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 1 and, thus, also satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2. The rejection is respectfully traversed. As discussed above, independent claims 1, 8, and 9 have been amended to clarify that the during the second enumeration step the auxiliary device hides (*i.e.*, does not make available) functionalities (*e.g.*, services) that the main device is not configured to handle (*i.e.*, the services within the auxiliary device that have not been activated). The second enumeration is discussed in

paragraph [0025] of the referenced application. The Applicant respectfully asserts that the meaning of the term “hide” and “hides” are now clear based on the aforementioned claim amendments and the cited portions of the referenced application. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 1-4 and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by IBM published article, “*Transparent Automodding Procedure between a Local (Client) Modem and a Remote (Server) Modem*” (“Rivera”). To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 1 is directed to a method for configuring a system. As recited in amended independent claim 1, the system includes a main device and an auxiliary device arranged to co-operate with each other. Further, the main device is configured to handle one or more functionalities and the auxiliary device being arranged to affect one or more of the functionalities on the main device. As recited in amended independent claim 1, the method comprises an adaptation step, in which the auxiliary device performs a first enumeration of its functionalities. Further, the method includes an enumeration step in which the auxiliary device performs a second enumeration of its functionalities to the main device, wherein the second enumeration hides from the main device at least those of its functionalities for which the main device is not arranged to handle.

The following is an example of an embodiment of the invention. The following example is not intended to limit the scope of the claims. Turning to the example, Figure 1 shows a USB host

connected to a USB device. Various applications, for example A1 and A2, are stored on the USB host. Each application requires one or several services to run properly. In this example, A1 requires services S1 and S2. Although the USB device in this example can supply the necessary services S1 and S2, the device includes additional services that A1 does not require, such as services S3 and S4. In a first enumeration step, the USB device provides a complete listing of all service (*i.e.*, S1, S2, S3, S4) to the USB host. Subsequently, only the services that are required by the USB host are activated (*i.e.*, S1 and S2). In a second enumerating step, only the descriptors of the activated services will be provided to (or visible to) the host because the remaining descriptors for unactivated services are hidden. As a result, in this embodiment, the USB device may have multiple services stored thereon, however the USB host will only upload the specific services it requires (*see* Referenced Application, Figs. 1-2 and accompanying text).

Turning to the rejection, “a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). (*See* MPEP § 2131). The Applicant respectfully asserts that Rivera fails to disclose all the limitations of amended independent claims 1 and 8-10.

In particular, amended independent claim 1 requires, *inter alia*, “an adaptation step, in which the auxiliary device performs a first enumeration of its functionalities” and “an enumeration step in which the auxiliary device performs a second enumeration of its functionalities to the main device.” The aforementioned limitations explicitly require that the auxiliary device send *two separate enumerations of its functionalities* to the main device. Rivera is completely silent with respect to an auxiliary device configured to send two separate enumerations to a main device as recited in

amended independent claim 1.

Specifically, Rivera discloses a method for selecting a communication protocol to enable a client modem and a server modem to communicate. The method disclosed in Rivera is initiated by the client modem. After the client modem calls the server modem, a series of exchanges takes place to determine the supported communication protocols for each device. As disclosed in Rivera, the aforementioned exchange involves both the client modem and the server modem sending a listing of *all support communication protocols* to each other. Once this exchange is terminated, the client modem loads from the server modem the code necessary to support the protocol, without the server modem knowing (*see* Rivera, paragraph 2).

From the above, Rivera discloses a first enumeration (*i.e.*, client modem and server modem exchanging listings of support communication protocols). However, Rivera is complete silent with respect to a second enumeration. In fact, after the first exchange of communication protocols, the client modem, as discussed above, stops communication with the server modem, unloads any unsupported communication protocols and, if required, simultaneously uploads the agreed upon communication protocol (*i.e.*, the communication protocol currently used by the server modem), and then restarts communication. From the above it is clear that the second enumeration of functionalities from the client modem to the server modem *never* occurs.

Further, amended independent claim 1 also requires, *inter alia*, a method “wherein the second enumeration hides from the main device at least those of its functionalities for which the main device is not arranged to handle.” Thus, even assuming *arguendo* that Rivera teaches a first enumeration and a second enumeration, Rivera is silent with respect to a second enumeration that hides services that are unnecessary for the main device to load.

The Examiner has asserted that Rivera discloses “an adaptation step, in which the auxiliary device hides from the main device at least those of its functionalities for which the main device is not arranged to handle (the Client modem (auxiliary device) loads code for a selected protocol (functionality) while the Server (main device) is unaware (because it is hidden)” (*see* Office Action, August 23, 2006, p. 7). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

First, amended independent claim 1 requires that the auxiliary device enumerate its functionalities to the main device. In contrast, Rivera only discloses transparent communication of data from the server modem (equated to the main device by the Examiner) to the client modem (equated to the auxiliary device by the Examiner), which is the opposite direction of communication required by amended independent claim 1.

Second, Rivera only discloses the downloading of a communication protocol to the client modem from the server modem in a manner that is transparent to the server modem. Clearly, downloading executable code is not equivalent to downloading an enumeration (*i.e.*, a listing) of functionalities (*e.g.*, service descriptors).

In view of the above, Rivera fails to disclose all the limitations recited in amended independent claim 1. Thus, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Rivera. Amended independent claims 8-10 include at least the same patentable limitations as amended independent claim 1 and thus, are patentable over Rivera for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1. Further, dependant claims are patentable over Rivera for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1. Thus, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 103

Claims 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rivera in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,647,452 (“Sonoda”). Claims 5 and 7 depend, directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 1. To the extent that this rejection applies to amended independent claim 1, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

“To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness “...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” (See MPEP §2143.03). Further, “all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.” (See MPEP §2143.03). The Applicant respectfully asserts that Rivera and Sonoda, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claim 1.

As discussed above, Rivera does not teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claim 1. Further, Sonoda does not teach that which Rivera lacks. This is evidenced by the fact that Sonoda is only relied upon to teach “a simulation step, in which the disconnecting and the reconnecting of the auxiliary device is simulated on a USB host as a main device, and a USB device as an auxiliary device, or smart card,” (see Office Action mailed August 23, 2006 at pp. 9-10). Sonoda is directed to a USB device with a change-over circuit that enables an USB device to perform a disconnection-reconnection operation. Sonoda is completely silent with respect to any enumeration of functionalities of the USB device. Accordingly, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Rivera and Sonoda. Dependent claims 5-7 are patentable for at least the same

reasons.¹ Thus, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

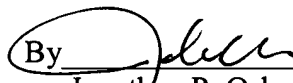
¹ Moreover, because Sonoda fails to disclose each and every limitation of independent claims 1 of the present application, Applicant need not specifically discuss the merits of the Examiner's rejections of those dependent claims also rejected solely under Sonoda. Thus, Applicant in no way admits, or acquiesces to, the various unsupported items of Official Notice taken by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 09669/043001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments (Replacement Drawings)
(Clean Version of Paragraphs [24], [37], [39], [41], [43], and [44]) (3 pages)